

REGINA ROMERO

Tucson City Council - Ward I

Westside : Southside : Downtown

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A MESSAGE FROM VICE MAYOR ROMERO

DECEMBER 20, 2012

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Happy holidays to you! The festivities and positive spirit of this time of year provide us an opportunity to contemplate and celebrate what is important. I am grateful to be surrounded by wonderful and supportive friends and family. Take a moment during this season and let those around you know how they enrich your life.

It is my honor to serve as your Ward I Councilor. I would like this opportunity to thank my colleagues, and City staff for all of your hard work. This coming year we have much work to be done, I am excited to begin the New Year.

Speaking of 2013, here are a few items of interest for the coming year:

- **Beyond Tucson** is Saturday, January 5, 2013. Beyond Tucson honors those affected by January 8, 2011 through fun and family-friendly community events. From the Beyond Tucson webpage, "we continue this journey and move beyond towards a fresh set of challenges and new adventures." I encourage you to take part. Visit <http://www.beyond-tucson.org/> for more information.
- On February 28, 2013, **Pima Council on Aging (PCOA)** will release The Area Plan on Aging: Report to the Community. PCOA is currently seeking comment from residents age 60 and older to provide feedback. The community survey segment of the community needs assessment campaign remains underway through December 31, 2012. Your thoughts are valuable, please visit the website and take the survey at <http://www.pcoa.org/> or <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WH5GCDV>. You can also request a paper copy of the survey by mail, contact PCOA at (520) 790-7262.

I look forward to your comments and feedback. Contact (520)791-4040 or ward1@tucsonaz.gov. You can also visit me on Facebook at Regina Romero and Twitter at @tucsonromero.

Feliz Año Nuevo!

Regina Romero

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

ONE WEEKEND ONLY! A TUCSON PASTORELA

Borderlands Theater will fill the Leo Rich Theater with laughter and tears this weekend with the 17th Annual ***A Tucson Pastorela***. Directed by Eva Tessler and written by Wendy Burk, Eric Magrane and the Pastorela Ghost Writers, ***A Tucson Pastorela*** follows the story of the Nativity, with a Tucson twist. Where else can you see Archangels with flaming swords, laugh at clever one-liners and jokes that reference pop culture and news of the past year, and hear holiday carols accompanied by Gertie and the T.O. Boyz? There will be piñatas for kids after every show. Sunday's matinee will feature a special performance by Ballet Folklorico Tapatio. Running December 20-23, Leo Rich Theater, Tucson Convention Center. For more information, please call (520) 882-7406 or www.borderlandstheater.org.



12TH AVENUE TOUR HIGHLIGHTS TUCSON TREASURE



On Friday, December 14 Vice Mayor Romero hosted City and County officials, representatives from the Drachman Institute and the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation on a tour of South 12th Avenue. As part of Vice Mayor Romero's plan for Economic Development in our community, the tour highlighted the need for infrastructure planning and improvements along S. 12th Avenue. Did you know South 12th is a bustling small business incubator? There are restaurants, food vendors, beauty salons, jewelry stores, insurance agents, veterinarians, and more. Vice Mayor Romero has made it a top priority to bring infrastructure, pedestrian and transit improvements to 12th Avenue. The effort is in the planning stages, no money has been allocated. Ward I has been working with Benjamin Galaz of BK Hot Dogs and the Southside Business Coalition to strengthen the communication with area merchants. Tour guests came away with a first hand view of the need in our community, and an appreciation of what makes 12th Avenue a homegrown cultural destination.

ENCOURAGE NATIVE PLANTS! BEAT BACK BUFFELGRASS 1.26.13



The 6th annual Beat Back Buffelgrass Day is a county-wide volunteer project led by the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center, www.buffelgrass.org.

Learn how to safely remove buffelgrass and battle this invasive species that threatens our public and private lands! We'll be pulling from the newly-marked Gilbert Escandon Jimenez Trail, part of a series of planned improvements to Sentinel Peak Park. Check it out!

Free water, lunch and snacks for volunteers. Please bring gloves and tools for battling buffelgrass. The most common tool is a large metal bar but a shovel will work, too. To reach Sentinel Peak from I-10, go West on Congress Street to just before it intersects with Silverbell, turn south (left) on Cuesta and head up the mountain to the top parking lot. You can sign up to volunteer by calling the Ward I office at 837-4263 , or email Ward1@tucsonaz.gov or sign up online at www.buffelgrass.org

TAKE ACTION

SIGN UP FOR SMARTSCAPE TRAINING



SmartScape Training for Landscape Professionals begins soon! Interested in learning how to create an attractive and water efficient landscape. For questions or more information contact Kathryn Hahne, SmartScape Program, Pima Co. Cooperative Extension at (520)626-5161, Fax: 520-626-5849. Link here <http://www.ag.arizona.edu/pima/smartscape>

WINTER IS HERE! PROTECT YOUR PIPES AND PLUMBING

Wintery temperatures this week are a reminder to prevent pipes and plumbing from freezing. Properties should be checked for any exposed pipes that carry water. Foam and wrap insulation can be used to protect them from freezing. Evaporative coolers, backflow assemblies, and irrigation systems should also be given attention.



Tucson Water offers its popular "Homeowners' Guide to Using Water Wisely" and the "Winterizing Tips" document for customers. To receive both, call the Public Information and Conservation Office (PICO) at (520) 791-4331, e-mail pico@tucsonaz.gov, or go online to H2ot Topics at www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

TREECYCLE & START THE NEW YEAR GREEN



From December 26-January 6, residents can recycle their Christmas trees through the City of Tucson's TreeCycle Program. TreeCycle sites are located throughout Tucson and Oro Valley. TreeCycle sites are open during daylight hours, seven days a week. Trees must be free of all ornaments, decorations and tree stands before dropping off at the TreeCycle sites. Tree Pool is encouraged; bring your neighbor's tree too!

Please remember the City will not collect Christmas trees from curbs and alleys. Other green waste cannot be accepted at TreeCycle locations.

This year from January 2-6 the City is offering residents wood chips available for pick-up at Udall Park and Randolph Golf Course. Bring your own container and take home some free wood chips for your garden. For TreeCycle locations or more information contact the Recycling InfoLine at 791-5000 or visit the ES website at www.tucsonaz.gov/esd.

SAVE THE DATE! GRAFFITI ABATEMENT TRAINING 1.26.13

Plan to attend the Ward I Graffiti Abatement Event to Saturday, January 26, from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Join us and learn more how you can help clean up graffiti, learning techniques from GPC. Wear your painting clothes, hat and sunscreen. After breakfast and training, we'll go into our neighborhoods and clean up our streets and then come back for a delicious lunch, courtesy of BKs Hot Dogs. For more information contact Laura Dent at (520)791-4040 or Laura.Dent@tucsonaz.gov.

